

**FREEMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD  
CLARE COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

At a meeting of the Freeman Township Board of Clare County, Michigan, held at 7280 Mannsiding Road, Lake, Michigan on

**Special Board Meeting, Thursday, the 15<sup>th</sup> of August, 2019**

Present Board Members: Supervisor Housler, Treasurer Lackie, Clerk Lightfoot, Trustees Barnett & Sable.

**TIME: 7:00 p.m.** Call to Order and Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call was taken with all members present, along with 74 citizens.

Supervisor Housler informed the public that we are hear to objections to the special assessment district amount of \$150 per year. Since there are some new people here, he decided to give a history of how we got to this point. The Board has been discussing the problems at the transfer site for over a year. We discussed various options, including upgrading, due to volume way more than 1 compactor can handle, curbside pickup, or contract on your own. Curbside was the most cost effective, as the transfer site would need a 2<sup>nd</sup> compactor and site improvements and another driveway. The Board determined to establish a special assessment district in late May and issued a notice of Public Hearing for July 13, 2019. On July 16, 2019 the Board considered the objections and then passed the Special Assessment District. The second meeting to object to the special district amount of \$150 is tonight's meeting.

A reminder there is a 3 minute limit for each speaker. You are free to talk on what you want and if you protest the \$150 charge you should state that. This preserves your ability to go to the Tax Tribunal. Written letters carry the same weight as spoken. The Clerk needs your full name and address. Supervisor asks for everyone to remain quiet and respect those that speaking.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

RON MAXWELL – 983 Windover Drive – against curbside – trash fee for everyone? Or Seasonal?

DEBRA COBURN – 10640 Ashard – not going to be able to pay – what are demographics of vote – home owners went and got trash pickup – reading reviews of winter and summer – taking complaints to waste management – we can dump 3 times a year – surrounding summer – collateral damage – blight – grading.

LINDA MCCAFFREY – 11245 Cedar Road – don't want – why couldn't we vote on this?

JACK KUDANIAN – 2200 Grass Lake Avenue – I was here on 7-16-19 – who is making final decision – I was told the Board – How is money determined – Waste Management – Is \$150 for one year or for a decade or what – if Waste Management charges double next year how will it work?

Supervisor Housler noted we advertised and took bids and received one bid of \$141/year. The Township added \$9 for unanticipated emergencies to make it \$150. The contract will be for 3 years. Max amount of increase is 3% / year.

LAVONNE KUDANIAN – 2200 Grass Lake Avenue – oppose this – you only received one bid – retired RN and elderly will fall and break a hip – then quality of life gone.

Supervisor Housler noted we advertised in the newspaper for curbside pickup.

JOSEPHINE LEAMAN – 2200 Leaman Trail – How do I get it in the car and get down road?

Supervisor Housler noted that if people don't want on private road. American Waste will put a dumpster at the end of the road. A 3 or 5 yarder with a lock would be placed at no cost to the property owner.

CAROL BEDNARKIEWICZ – 7190 Oak Hollow Trail – Question on where to put

DEBRA HOUSE – 2200 Twin Lakes Road – mom can't push tote. Mom on M-115 – how do I get it there – No don't want.

ROD McMAHON – 327 Garfield – didn't you say there wasn't a contract – bidder could change his mind.

LONA ELSCA – 792 Norway – Seasonal – convenient to drop off when we leave – year round on fixed income – older people – don't want to see people fall

JACK KUDANIAN – 2200 Grass Lake Avenue – private roads get dumpsters – some of these people have to drag these - someone responsible

DARRELL STAFFORD – 6391 Woodridge Drive – Hopefully we're not wasting time – object to this – Can there be a compromise? If we can't compromise – why is sense of urgency? Why right now? Thought process – hastily decision – always simple resolution – not pretend – was in case of urgency – thank you for your time

STEVE ANDREWS – 3351 Pinehurst – not object to fee – put those things sitting outside – if give up site then land goes back to land owner – you could fix up cheaper – taking rights away – if you want it then just tax people who want it.

BRENDA BLACKWELL – 6391 Woodridge – I object. We're only allowed 6 bags – we go twice a week with more than 6 bags each time – won't be able to – having surgery this winter

DONNA MEGGISON – 6695 Tamarack – injuries - has permanent injury – how do you take – strongly protest

STANLEY WARNER – 501 Grass Lake Avenue – I'm assessed 3 times – if habitable

RON MAXWELL – 983 Windover Drive – I understand – I tried other agencies – I was told this is done – We're retired – only here on weekends – first meeting was on Saturday – I'm against – I'm at beginning of private road – I see good and bad.

JOE GAMMIE – 600 Grass Lake – July 16 was under special room – (Supervisor Housler noted it wasn't a closed meeting). Against assessment and money – Not enough notice.

KIMBERLY RAYCRAFT (Harold Olds property) – 1869 Spring Avenue – opposed to \$150 – seasonal – How long in paper for bids

JOHN ALDEN – 8188 Wallace Drive – Why don't you let them vote?

MADONNA LAVERGE – 6164 Larch Trail – Live in Macomb Township – We had Waste Management – now GFL – pay \$135 to them directly – recycle – If you don't want pickup up you don't – I'm not here on Tuesdays – I use 4 times a year – You'll have to tell them which one are habital – 5 are part-time on my site – I can't opt out.

LINDA LEAMAN – 2100 Leaman Trail – oppose it – private road – who has key? Everyone on road? – what about bears? Who is going to protect me when walk to dump?

PAULA DORA – 10150 W Cadillac Drive – We are part-time – 6 months/year here – I don't mind paying for what I get but I'm only here 6 month a year – our City contracts with company – you didn't include people who voted you – opposed to increase – M115 is a raceway – who is going to work for them and pick up trash on highway – involve taxpayers.

LAURA FULLER – 3050 Green Glen Ct – oppose assessment – against reasons same as others – we've invested money into dump site – bring up to standard at transfer site – cost of that vs. waste management company doing – has board considered for upgrades?

SANDY TEAGUE – 690 W Windover – Lot of concerns and questions – hate we don't understand what is going on – rumors of people not being able to work – as a seasonal you're assessment me same – against – take garbage home with me – why not get out of garbage system – people find convenient – working well – not offering recycling – animals – elderly people – continue to have – we are going to come to you with complaints – put contract in our hands – thank you.

CONNIE GREEN – 8208 Wallace Drive – I agree with everyone – be good leadership – looking out for community.

SHELLY KELLY – 9295 Monroe Road – glad people here and listening to sue – have you asked for a committee – have you lifted the tote when full down gravel road – lived here 54 years – all these people here – lot of elderly – what does it (truck) weigh? – will you refund us if they don't come due to winter – ask to table – don't need police here – don't have internet.

KEN RICKARD – 650 Connie – Why did you only .....(couldn't hear rest of it).

LINDA BELCHER – 650 W Windover – Seasonal – here on month total/year – oppose being assessed same as permanent people – how long can it (tote) sit out?

FRANK KEINZ – 6292 Birchwood – weekender – don't want to see tote in front of house – transfer station is fine – bids – not one at our fire department went through with one bid – you need committee – someone from board could be on – not a done deal if contract not signed.

KEN KEINZ – 6392 Birchwood – agree with elderly – I’m EMT – took 30’ paved driveway and having problems – part-time – winter out by road – they get plowed over – should have a committee – opposed.

CAROL FLEMING – 2391 Ashcroft – bad idea

DAVE BROWN – 2916 Brown – part-time – oppose

ARMA & GARY ZASTROW – 10500 W Cadillac – opposed to special assessment and curbside pickup

RICHARD SLIWA – 7389 Mannsiding Road – object to special assessment and curbside

GREG MORGAN – 1400 Spring Avenue – price of another dumpster is cheaper than curbside – no one can move these – no problem with current system.

WILLIAM KING – 801 Norway – Oppose subject – don’t have problem with updating system 3 lots – cabin and house – cabin stores junk

LINDA LAKE – 2809 S. Grass Lake Avenue – tote is pretty big for me – I’m opposed.

DELLA MILLER – 10192 Cadillac Drive – Too much traffic – mailbox will be knocked down – I’m disabled – I vote no

CAROL BEDNARKIEWICZ – 7190 Oak Hollow - upgrade as was – doesn’t winter offset summer – put money into what we have

LOIS COITO – 2815 S Grass Lake Avenue – oppose assessment and trash – house flooded – no place to meet

PAUL BISSONNETTE – 8179 Monroe – oppose assessment – didn’t make clear about making objection to cost – recycle needs to be included – transfer volume of recycling into trash – won’t work

BILL BATZ – 10758 W CEDAR ROAD – oppose trash and tax assessment – this company doesn’t accept contract (Supervisor Housler noted Mr. Batz was so far off!)

WARD MEGGISON – 6659 Tamarack Trail – trash man won’t handle it

LINDA & JOHN DEHELEAN – 2228 Grass Lake – oppose – lots of bends in road – cars gone done and in road – cars can ruin can – oppose all parts of this – see a committee

DANNY STEVENS – 184 Twin Lakes Road – I used to work at transfer site – nothing wrong – didn’t cost us nothing to use – you’re giving back to owner – I’m against this

SHANNON BRANNAN – 9295 W Monroe – I’m buying 920 on a land contract – not living there – will it be assessed – trucks going down road so should we leave tote at end of road or will company know – fixed income – property getting revoked because people won’t be able to pay taxes

DONALD JOHNS – 6391 Woodridge – against all of this and taxes

**8:21 p.m. – Public Hearing portion closed.**

At this point, almost everyone in the audience immediately got up and left. Debra Coburn was shouting instructions to the public as they left. At the same time, several Board members were trying to get the public's attention telling them that the Board meeting was not over yet. (In the agenda, #2 said "Adjourn Public Hearing and return to Regular Session. Under Regular Board Meeting, #1 said "Consideration of Resolution #2 establishing curbside rubbish removal services for Freeman Township".)

When the crowd dispersed, there were about 10 people left in the audience.

Supervisor Housler moved to accept the following Resolution #2, seconded by Trustee Sable. Ayes 5 (Housler, Sable, Barnett, Lackie, Lightfoot) Nays 0.

WHEREAS, the Township Board, (the "Board") of the Township of Freeman, Clare County, State of Michigan, has resolved on its own initiative, to provide garbage and rubbish removal services to the entire Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township has prepared a preliminary estimate of the cost of the services, attached as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing the cost estimates, the Board desires to proceed with the project, to levy special assessments against all parcels benefitted by the project to defray all or part of the cost of the project, all pursuant to and as authorized by Act 188, Public Acts of 1954, as amended;

WHEREAS, the Township held a public hearing on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 7:00 p.m. at 7280 Mannsiding Road, Lake, MI 4632, to hear objections to the above plans, cost estimates and public hearings.

BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The cost estimate received for garbage and rubbish removal is accepted, approved, and ordered filed with the Township Clerk, and summaries thereof attached to this resolution as Exhibit A hereby approved and made part of this resolution.
2. The Township Board hereby approves the completion of its plans to provide garbage and rubbish collection services throughout the Township to all parcels with a habitable structure.
3. The Township Board hereby approves the special assessment district as constituting the Township as a whole, confirms its existence for a period commencing with the tax bills payable and billed in December, 2019, and ending upon the same date in December, 2029.
4. The Township Board hereby approves an ad valorem special assessment against said district of \$150 per habitable structure annually to fund said project.

5. Periodic redeterminations in the cost of the garbage removal services may be necessary without a change in the special assessment district boundaries. Redeterminations shall be made on or before July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, if at all. Such redeterminations may be made without further notice to record owners or parties in interest in the property.
6. The Board shall meet at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 15th, 2019 at 7280 Mannsiding Road, Lake, MI 48632 and during such meeting shall conduct a public hearing to hear objections to the special assessment roll as required by Act 188, Public Acts of 1954. The form of Notice attached hereto as Exhibit C is hereby approved as and for the form of Notice for such hearing. The Clerk shall cause notice of such hearing, in the form approved to be given as follows:
  - a. To each record owner of, or party in interest in, land in the District whose name appears on the last Township tax assessment records (as defined below), by first-class mail addressed to such owner or party at such address, at least 10 days before the date of the hearing, provided, however, that if a record owner's name does not appear in the last Township tax assessment records, such notice shall be given by first-class mail addressed to the record owner at the address shown by the records of the Clare County Register of Deeds within the time provided in this subparagraph (a);
  - b. By publishing such notice twice in the Clare County Cleaver, a newspaper circulating in the Township, the first such publication to be at least 10 days before the date of the hearings; and
  - c. To each person (if any) whose name and address has been filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Michigan as a person upon whom may be served notice of any proceeding under Act 188, by registered mail addressed to such person at such address, or personally, within five days after the first publication of notice pursuant to subparagraph (b) of this paragraph.

As used in subparagraph (a) of this paragraph, the term "last Township tax assessment records" means the last assessment roll for ad valorem tax purposes which was reviewed by the Township Board of Review, as supplemented by any subsequent changes in the names or the addresses of the owners or parties listed on such roll.

7. In addition to the notices required by paragraph 3 of this resolution, public notice of the meeting referred to in such paragraph shall be given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act (Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan 1976, as amended).
8. All previous resolutions, or parts of previous resolutions, of the Board that are inconsistent with this resolution are hereby rescinded.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Treasurer Lackie to adjourn the meeting.  
**TIME: 8:25 p.m.**

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Alan Housler, Supervisor

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Julie Lightfoot, Township Clerk